

DDG ICAR suggests “Cluster based Forestry Education”

Dr. R.C.Agrawal the Deputy Director General (Agricultural Education) ICAR and National Director IDP visited Forest College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam on 10th January, 2023. He visited the High Value Forest and Institutional development plan plantations and launched the “Earn through a Tree program” with the fresher batch (2022) of B.Sc.(Hons.) Forestry and Sericulture. As a part of the program, a student interaction was held at the language lab and the students expressed their gratitude for creating such a facility, which helped them hone their soft skills.

In association with the program, the biomass gasifier unit was inaugurated by DDG ICAR. The process of converting wood waste biomass into energy and heat by using the controlled conversion process was explained by highlighting its utility in the energy sector. The DDG ICAR also visited the various skilled based units such as Biomass Briquetting, Wood Carving and Antiques, Wood Seasoning and Preservation, Natural Dye Extraction and Mini clonal technology where the experiential learning students elucidated their entrepreneurial skills.

During the programme, Dr. K. T. Parthiban, Dean (Forestry) addressed the current scenario, scope and opportunities in forestry-based education and research. Further, DDG ICAR addressed the gathering, offered valuable input on students' skill development, and recommended a cluster-based forestry education system, which goes in hand with the NEP 2020. Finally, the agroforestry incubates products such as Herbal Tooth Powder, Pain relief oil (Virginis Cure and Care) and Moringa Aloe vera gel (Herbo Queen Enterprises) and financial aids were distributed for three incubates for a total amount of Rs.30,80,000 towards the value addition of forest-based products. Dr.K.Kumaran, Professor and Head (Forest Biology and Tree Improvement) proposed the vote of thanks.


Dean (Forestry)